IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of all pending claims.

1-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

a transmitter configured to send, during a subscriber equipment terminated call, a session invitation message to a subscriber equipment, the session invitation message comprising authentication information;

a determiner configured to determine whether a verification of the authentication is required;

a processor configured to,

> if the verification is not required,

>> forward a scheduled result to a network control element by including the scheduled result into the session invitation message, and,

> if the network control element has to perform the verification,

>> receive the scheduled result from another network control element, wherein the scheduled result is included in the session invitation message,

>> extract the scheduled result from the session invitation message,

>> forward the session invitation message without the scheduled result to the subscriber equipment,

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verify an authentication result with the scheduled result, and

repeat the verification for a predetermined number of times, wherein

different authentication information are used.

30.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a response message as a response to the session invitation message from the subscriber equipment, the response message including a result of an authentication procedure performed by the subscriber equipment.

31.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 30, further comprising:

a verifier configured to verify the authentication procedure result.

32.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising:

a forwarder configured to forward the response message of the subscriber equipment to an originating entity initiating the session invitation without the result of the authentication procedure in case of a positive verification.

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33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising:

a forwarder configured to forward a failure message to an originating entity initiating the session invitation in case of a negative verification.

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein a session initiation protocol (SIP) protocol is adopted as a control protocol.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the session invitation message is a SIP INVITE request comprising an authentication header field.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the response message is a SIP response message comprising an authorization header field.

37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising:

a server configured to serve an originating entity initiating the session invitation.

38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 31, further comprising:

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a server configured to serve the subscriber equipment.

39-42. (Cancelled)

43.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 29, further comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a response message from the subscriber equipment, the response message including the authentication result of the authentication procedure and network authentication information which is used by the subscriber equipment to perform an authentication of the network.

44.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 43, further comprising:

a determiner configured to determine a network authentication result in response to the network authentication information and to send the network authentication result to the subscriber equipment.

45-53. (Cancelled)

54.   (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

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sending, during a subscriber equipment terminated call, a session invitation message from a network control element to the subscriber equipment, the session invitation message comprising authentication information;

determining, by the network control element, whether the network control element has to perform a verification of the authentication or not; and,

in case the network control element does not have to perform the verification, forwarding a scheduled result to a second network control element by including the scheduled result into the session invitation message,

in case the network control element has to perform the verification,

receiving the scheduled result from another network control element, wherein the scheduled result is included in the session invitation message,

extracting the scheduled result from the session invitation message,

forwarding the session invitation message without the scheduled result to the subscriber equipment, and

verifying an authentication result with a scheduled result; and

repeating the verification for a predetermined number of times, wherein different authentication information are used.

55.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 54, further comprising:

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receiving a response message in the network control element as a response to the session invitation message from a subscriber equipment, the response message including a result of an authentication procedure performed by the subscriber equipment.

56. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 55, further comprising:

verifying, by the network control element, the authentication procedure result.

57. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 56, further comprising:

forwarding the response message of the subscriber equipment from the network control element to an originating entity initiating the session invitation without the result of the authentication procedure in case of a positive verification.

58. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 56, further comprising:

forwarding a failure message from the network control element to an originating entity initiating the session invitation in case of a negative verification.

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59. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied on a computer-readable medium, the computer program comprising computer code for causing a processor to perform operations comprising:

sending a session invitation message from a network control element to the subscriber equipment, the session invitation message including authentication information;

determining, by the network control element, whether the network control element has to perform a verification of the authentication or not; and,

in case the network control element does not have to perform the verification, forwarding a scheduled result to a second network control element by including the scheduled result into the session invitation message,

in case the network control element has to perform the verification,

receiving the scheduled result from another network control element, wherein the scheduled result is included in the session invitation message,

extracting the scheduled result from the session invitation message and forwarding the session invitation message without the scheduled result to the subscriber equipment,

verifying an authentication result with a scheduled result; and

repeating the verification for a predetermined number of times, wherein different authentication information are used.

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60.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:

sending means for sending, during a subscriber equipment terminated call, a session invitation message to the subscriber equipment, the session invitation message including authentication information;

determining means for determining whether a verification of the authentication is required; and,

transceiver means for forwarding a scheduled result to a second control network by including the scheduled result into the session invitation message, if the verification is not required,

wherein if the verification is required, the transceiver means is for receiving the scheduled result from another network control element, wherein the scheduled result is included in the session invitation message,

extracting means for extracting the scheduled result from the session invitation message and to forward the session invitation message without the scheduled result to the subscriber equipment,

verification means for verifying an authentication result with a scheduled result and

repeating means for repeating the verification for a predetermined number of times, wherein different authentication information are used.

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